



June 21, 2005

The Honorable David Dreier
233 Cannon Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Dreier:

I am writing on behalf of the Riverside Sheriffs' Association (RSA), representing 2,500 Deputy Sheriffs, Probation Officers, Coroners, and District Attorney Investigators in Riverside County, to express our strong support for H.R. 2363, the "Peace Officer Justice Act," which you introduced. RSA proudly represents the entire law enforcement team in Riverside County, California.

As you know, H.R. 2363 would provide for the death penalty or life imprisonment for individuals who are convicted of killing peace officers and who flee the country to avoid prosecution or detention. On April 29, 2002 Deputy David March was shot and killed by Armando Garcia during a routine traffic stop in Irwindale, California. Garcia was in this country illegally and had previous felonies. After committing the murder, Garcia fled to Mexico and has been living freely in that country ever since. Mexico refuses to extradite Garcia because he would face charges that could result in the death penalty or life in prison without the possibility of parole. Deputy March was survived by his wife and two young children.

RSA commends you for your leadership in this area. Please contact our Washington, D.C. representative, Shannon Lahey at (202) 333-6924 if we can provide you with any assistance in securing the passage of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Pat McNamara
President